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WIGSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1953

R. W. Kind, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Area (In acres)</u>	3432
<u>Number of inhabited houses (at 31st. March 1954)</u>	
according to rate books	4926
(There are in addition 143 houses combined with shops	
<u>Number of Council Houses occupied</u>	885
<u>Rateable Value 1st. April, 1953</u>	£78,891
<u>Sum represented by a penny rate</u>	1952/3(Actual) £304
	1953/4(Probable) £312

POPULATION:

1953 Registrar General's estimate 15,720

TABLE showing the Registrar General's estimate of the changes in population during the past ten years :-

1944 - - - - 13,290	1949 - - - - 14,980
1945 - - - - 13,340	1950 - - - - 15,630
1946 - - - - 14,230	1951 - - - - 16,240
1947 - - - - 14,530	1952 - - - - 15,470
1948 - - - - 14,780	1953 - - - - 15,720

BIRTHS :

					1952	1953
<u>Live Births:</u>	Legitimate	-	-	Male	148	126
		-	-	Female	123	126
				Total	271	252
	Illegitimate	-	-	Male	4	2
		-	-	Female	5	5
				Total	9	7
	Total Live Births:			Male	152	128
				Female	128	131
				Total	280	259
<u>Stillbirths:</u>	Legitimate	-	-	Male	Nil	3
		-	-	Female	1	3
				Total	1	6
	Illegitimate	-	-	Male	Nil	Nil
		-	-	Female	2	Nil
				Total	2	Nil
	Total Stillbirths:			Male	Nil	3
				Female	3	3
				Total	3	6

<u>Birthrate per 1,000 estimate population :</u>		1952	1953
Wigston- - - - -		18.9	16.4
England and Wales-		15.3	15.5

<u>Illegitimate birthrate per 1,000 live births:</u>			
Wigston- - - - -		32.1	27.3

		1952	1953
Stillbirths rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths		10.6	22.6
Stillbirths rate per 1,000 estimated population :			
Wigston - - - - -		0.19	0.38
England and Wales - - -		0.35	0.35

TABLE showing the changes in the total live births and in the birth rates during the past ten years :-

Year	Total Live Births Wigston	Birth Rates (per 1,000 population)		
		Wigston	Leicester-shire	England and Wales
1944	315	23.7	21.1	17.6
1945	254	19.0	18.8	16.1
1946	319	22.4	20.6	19.1
1947	359	24.7	21.2	20.5
1948	331	22.39	18.84	17.9
1949	283	19.0	17.35	16.7
1950	253	16.1	16.17	15.8
1951	262	16.07	16.02	15.5
1952	280	18.9	15.67	15.3
1953	259	16.4	15.43	15.5

DEATHS :

					1952	1953
Total Number of Deaths:	Male -	-	-	-	84	61
	Female -	-	-	-	77	72
	Total- -	-	-	-	161	133
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population :						
	Wigston -	-	-	-	10.4	8.4
	England and Wales -				11.3	11.4

TABLE SHOWING changes in the total number of deaths and in the death rates during the past ten years :

Year	Total Deaths Wigston	Death Rates (per 1,000 population)		
		Wigston	Leicestershire	England and Wales
1944	160	12.0	11.2	11.6
1945	146	10.9	11.1	11.4
1946	157	11.1	10.7	11.5
1947	164	11.3	11.3	12.0
1948	147	9.9	9.77	10.8
1949	140	9.4	10.68	11.7
1950	145	9.2	10.28	11.6
1951	172	10.5	10.74	12.5
1952	161	10.4	10.06	11.3
1953	133	8.5	10.05	11.4

Deaths from puerperal causes :

					1952	1953
No. of deaths :	Puerperal sepsis- - -	-	-	-	Nil	Nil
	Other puerperal causes - -	-	-	-	Nil	Nil
Rate per 1,000 live and still births :						
	Wigston - - - - -	-	-	-	Nil	Nil
	England and Wales - - -	-	-	-	0.72	0.76

					1952	1953	
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :</u>							
<u>No. of deaths</u> :	Legitimate	-	-	Male	5	2	
		-	-	Female	6	7	
				Total	11	9	
	Illegitimate	-	-	Male	Nil	Nil	
		-	-	Female	Nil	Nil	
				Total	Nil	Nil	
Total Infant deaths				-	-	11	9

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births :						
Wigston	-	-	-	-	39.2	34.7
England and Wales	-	-	-	-	27.6	26.8

TABLE showing deaths of infants under one year and infant mortality rates during the past ten years :

Year	Total Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 live births.		
		Wigston	Leicestershire	England and Wales
1944	12	38	37	46
1945	10	39	36	46
1946	14	44	36	43
1947	22	64	43	41
1948	17	51.3	32.2	34
1949	7	24.7	27.1	32
1950	7	27.6	27.0	29.8
1951	5	19.0	25.1	29.6
1952	11	39.2	26.5	27.6
1953	9	34.7	28.0	26.8

						<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :</u>							
No. of Deaths	Legitimate	-	-	-	Male	2	2
		-	-	-	Female	5	7
					Total	7	9
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	Nil	Nil

Causes of Death.

Registrar General's Classification.	1952			1953		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory - -	2	1	3	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other- - -	1	-	1	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease - - -	1	-	1	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles- - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases -	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach. -	2	2	4	-	-	-
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	2	4	3	2	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast - -	-	-	-	-	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus. -	-	1	1	-	2	2
14. Malignant neoplasms, lymphatic and other. - - - -	10	8	18	7	11	18
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia - - -	1	1	2	-	-	-
16. Diabetes - - - - -	1	1	2	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system - - - -	13	22	35	9	13	22
18. Coronary disease, angina - -	10	5	15	4	6	10
19. Hypertension with heart disease -	-	1	1	2	-	2
20. Other heart disease - - -	13	12	25	15	13	28
21. Other circulatory disease - -	2	2	4	2	3	5
22. Influenza - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia - - - - -	5	3	8	3	1	4
24. Bronchitis - - - - -	1	2	3	2	1	3
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system - - - -	-	-	-	1	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum -	1	-	1	-	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis - -	3	2	5	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of the prostate -	-	-	-	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations - -	1	4	5	3	3	6
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases - - - -	14	6	20	4	9	13
33. Motor vehicle accidents - - -	1	-	1	1	1	2
34. All other accidents - - - -	-	-	-	1	-	1
35. Suicide - - - - -	-	1	1	1	-	1
36. Homicide and operations of war -	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total deaths, all causes - - -	84	77	161	61	72	133



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CONTROL AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

IMMUNIZATION :

Immunization facilities are provided free under the National Health Service Act. 170 children under the age of six years received their primary immunization during the year whilst 171 children received further treatment to maintain their immunity.

TUBERCULOSIS :

There were no deaths from this disease during the year under review.

New cases are summarized as follows :

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10	5	15
Non-pulmonary ..	Nil	3	3
TOTALS	10	8	18

In addition to these cases one further case of Pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis came to reside within the District.

The total number of cases residing within the District at the close of the year was as follows :

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	64	39	103
Non-pulmonary ..	2	9	11
TOTALS	66	48	114

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (See Tables on pages 6 and 7)

The year was ushered in by an epidemic of measles which whilst expected nevertheless produced an exceptionally large number of cases of this disease.

Other infectious diseases were of trivial proportions.

TABLE showing the notification of infectious diseases analysed by sex and age groupings.

Age Groups	Whooping Cough		Measles		Scarlet Fever		Acute Pneumonia		Erysipelas		Acute Encephalitis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 Year	3	2	3	2								
1 to 2	3	4	44	50								
3 to 4	4	7	68	61	2	1				1		
5 to 9	3	10	107	77	1							
10 to 14				1								
15 to 24			1	2								
25 to 44							3				1	
45 to 64							1					
65 and over										1		
Age Unknown												
TOTALS	13	23	223	193	3	1	4	-	-	2	1	-

TABLE showing the monthly distribution of certain infectious diseases.

1952	Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
	Measles	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	3	4	11
	Whooping Cough	9	7	13	9	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	45
	Scarlet Fever	2	5	6	1	2	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	24

(7)

1953	Measles	51	234	116	12	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	416
	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	7	11	11	36
	Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	4

The National Assistance Act, 1948 :

Section 47 of this Act empowers a Local Authority on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health to apply to the Courts for an order for the removal to hospital or other appropriate institution of persons found to be suffering from grave chronic disease, being aged or infirm or physically incapacitated and living under insanitary conditions, and not receiving from other persons proper care and attention.

The procedure for administering this section has been greatly simplified by the coming into force of National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, which makes possible immediate action by a Medical Officer of Health to safeguard the welfare of the aged.

It was not found necessary to exercise powers under this Act since all persons coming to notice, eight in all, were admitted to hospital by their own consent.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

For the following information I am indebted to Mr. F.B. Ashbridge, Sanitary Inspector, whose work during the year under review it represents.

Water Supply.

Mains water is supplied by the Leicester Corporation and is piped direct into 4,865 houses to serve a population of 15,700. A further 49 houses having 160 occupants receive the same water from standpipes. The quality of the water is entirely satisfactory but the pressure of the supply varies considerably in different districts and in the same district at different times.

An auxiliary main was laid during the year to augment the supply to the Wigston Fields area and further schemes are under consideration.

12 Houses rely upon wells for their water and during the year 8 samples were taken from certain of the 9 wells in use. Of these samples 4 were unsatisfactory. Two wells were cleansed.

Sewage Disposal.

With the exception of parts of East Wigston the District appears to be adequately sewered. Sewage disposal is at the Council's Works in Countesthorpe Road. It cannot be held that the condition of the works is other than unsatisfactory owing to gross overloading. Pollution of watercourses adjacent to the works is unavoidable. Improvements are scheduled but have been delayed by Ministerial allocation of a low priority.

There are in the area no earthclosets, privies or ashpits. 13 cesspools are cleaned fortnightly by Council employees whilst 23 pail closets, mostly chemical, are similarly dealt with at weekly intervals.

Public Cleansing.

The collection of refuse is carried out at approximately weekly intervals whilst trade wastes are collected from the 50 premises producing these.

The salvaging of ferrous and non-ferrous metals continues but with the disappearance of the market for it waste paper is no longer collected as a separate item.

Kitchen waste presents less of a problem and the end of its collection is in sight.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area :

Total number of complaints received during the year - - 180
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered- - - 466

Total number of inspections made :

	<u>Inspections</u>
Animal keeping	74
Bakehouses	12
Dairies	56
Drainage works	122
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	665
Food premises	110
Rodent control	217
Refuse collection and disposal	314
Schools	Nil
Shops	66
Slaughter-house and meat inspection	41
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	16
Verminous premises	13
Water supplies	12
Workshops	36
Other inspections	252
Smoke observations	40
Total inspection	2,046

Notices served during the year :

	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Public Health</u>
<u>Preliminary :</u>		
Outstanding on January 1st. 1952	6	17
Issued during the year	33	382
Complied with during the year	35	390
Statutory action necessary	Nil	Nil
Outstanding on Decemenr 31st.1952	4	9

Two Statutory Notices were served during the year, both of which were complied with.

Prevention of Damage By Pests Act, 1949.

A full time trained rodent operator is employed and his services are available to the adjoining Oadby U.D.C.

All Council property is treated regularly and public sewers twice yearly. Householders are offered a free service but a charge is made for operations involving trade premises.

Smoke Abatement.

40 observations were made on alleged smoke nuisances. It was not found necessary to take any formal action as co-operation with the factories concerned served to effect the remedies.

Shops Act, 1950.

2 defects in sanitary conveniences were found during the year and these together with 3 outstanding from 1952 were remedied.

2 further defects in washing facilities were found which with 2 similar defects outstanding from 1952 were also remedied.

Camping Sites.

The 8 dwelling vans in the area include 7 temporary vans which are owned by travelling showmen and which are laid up in this District for the winter.

16 inspections were made. No conditions were found which required any action.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Under this Act 2 premises were licensed. 8 inspections were made during the year, no contraventions of the Act being discovered.

Rag Flock & other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Under this Act 2 premises are registered for the purpose of upholstering. No contraventions of regulations have been found.

Eradication of Vermin.

8 houses were found to require treatment to eradicate fleas and bed bugs. 3 of the infested properties were owned by this Council.

Disinfestation was satisfactorily carried out in every case by stripping and treating with gammexane and other proprietary insecticides applied under pressure. The occupiers were advised of the steps necessary to prevent recurrences.

THE INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Ice Cream.

47 premises are registered for sale and 1 for manufacture of ice cream.

40 samples were taken during the year, 37 proving to be Grade one, 2 Grade two and 1 Grade three.

Milk: Dairies & Distributors.

1) Dairies:

Number on Register	2
Number of inspections made	8
Number of contraventions found	1
Number of contraventions remedied	1

ii) Distributors:

Number on Register	28
Number of inspections made	48
Number of contraventions found	5
Number of contraventions remedied	4

Milk Sampling.

<u>Designated Milk:</u>	Total number of samples taken for bacteriological examination	92
	Number found satisfactory	87
<u>Ordinary Milk:</u>	Total number of samples taken for bacteriological examination	61
	Number found satisfactory	43

Biological Examination of Milk.

The quarterly examination of milk produced and sold in this District, made with a view to detecting the presence of living tubercle bacilli, and Brucella abortus was continued.

6 such samples were taken, all proving satisfactory.

Milk, (Special Designations) (Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

<u>Licences issued :</u>	1 Dealers, Pasteurised	17
	Sterilised	12
	2 Supplementary, Pasteurised	2
	Sterilised	1

Milk, (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

<u>Licences issued:</u>	1 Dealers, Tuberculin Tested	5
	Accredited	Nil
	2 Supplementary, Tuberculin Tested	2
	Accredited	1

Meat and other Foods.

Two slaughter-houses are open for the slaughter of cottagers' pigs. 72 Animals have been slaughtered in this district during the year and all carcasses were inspected.

In six cases a part or an organ of the carcass was condemned. The disease in each case being tuberculosis.

Number of Inspections.

Knackers Yards	14
Meat Shops and Stores	26
Places where food other than meat is kept or prepared for sale	80

H O U S I N G

1. New Houses.

Number of applications for council houses at the end of the year	289
Programme of new council houses :	
Erected during the year	88
Under construction at end of year	122
Number of houses erected during the year by private enterprise	106
Number of houses in course of construction at the end of the year by private enterprise	78
Total number of post-war houses completed by -	
a) Local Authority	526
b) Private Enterprise	210

2. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	192
Number of inspections made for the purpose	396
b) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human inhabitation	3
c) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those in previous sub-headings) found to be not in all respects fit for human inhabitation	38

3. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its officers	36
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4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

a) <u>Under Sections 9, 10, 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.</u>	
i) Notices served in respect of dwelling houses requiring repairs	Nil
ii) Dwelling houses rendered fit by owners	Nil
b) <u>Under Public Health Acts.</u>	
i) Notices served in respect of dwelling houses requiring defects to be remedied	2
ii) Dwelling houses in which defects were remedied by the owners	2

5. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

The extent of overcrowding continues to remain unknown.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c Line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspect- ions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)	
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	6	15	2	Nil	1
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	101	75	5	Nil	2
(3) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority + (excluding out-workers premises)	3	7	14	Nil	Nil	3
Total		114	104	7	Nil	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pro- secutions were insti- tuted	M/c line No.
		Found	Remedied	Referred			
				To H.M. Inspect- or	by H.M. Inspec- tor		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	4	3	3	-	-	-	4
Overcrowding (S.2)..	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unreasonable temper- ature (S.3)	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
Inadequate venti- lation (S.4)	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	9	3	3	-	2	-	9
a) Insufficient	10	1	1	-	-	-	10
b) Unsuitable or defective	11	-	-	-	-	-	11
c) Not separate for sexes	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork).....	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
Total.....	60	7	7	-	2	-	60

+ i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 103(1)), Institutions (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	M/c line No.	Section 110			Section 111		Prosecutions	M/c line No.
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notice served		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Wearing apparel Making etc.	13	101	-	-	-	-	-	13

APPENDIX "A"

I am indebted to Mr. G.J. Wootton, Surveyor to the Wigston Urban District Council for the following report :-

RAINFALL IN 1953.

at Wigston U.D.C. Sewage Farm, Countesthorpe

in the County of Leicestershire

Rain Gauge { Diameter of funnel: 8 inches
Height of top above ground : 9 inches.
Height of ground above sea level: 256.85 ft.

Month	Total Depth	Greatest Fall in 24 Hours		Number of Days with	
				.01 in. or more	.04 in. or more
	<u>Inches</u>	<u>Inches</u>	<u>Date</u>		
January	1.05	.34	30	13	7
February	1.28	.39	9	11	7
March	1.64	1.29	29	8	6
April	2.18	.63	2	16	12
May	1.58	.56	18	11	9
June	2.64	.99	14	5	11
July	2.11	.43	12	5	16
August	2.80	.58	23	3	9
September	1.38	.25	22	3	8
October	2.50	.97	12	4	8
November	1.86	.39	1&8	7	8
December	.80	.13	12	8	10
Total	21.82			94	111

